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WESTERN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN BULLETIN APR. 1914

BULLETIN
OF
THE WESTERN COLLEGE
Letter to the Alumnae

SERIES I APRIL, 1914 VOL. VII, No. 4

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE COLLEGE
Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Oxford, Ohio, under Act of Congress, July 16, 1894

Commencement

Commencement Week this year is from Saturday, June 6th, to Wednesday, June 10th. This letter conveys to you, one and all, a most cordial invitation to share the pleasures of this week at the College. There will be room for all, as the freshmen, according to custom, vacate their rooms at the close of examinations. These rooms are hurriedly put in readiness for the reception of commencement guests, and included in this invitation there must be the request that everyone shall bring with her a spirit of allowance for any shortcomings in the rooms provided and in the commencement housekeeping.

The College

Your building, erected in '92, bears evidence of its faithful use, and you will enjoy seeing again those familiar class rooms, the laboratories, the library with its class window, and the art rooms. You will see that it does not now meet the needs of all our departments of work, and a visit to those crowded laboratories will bring to you a vision of the beautiful new Science Hall which Western girls are anticipating. Helen Peabody Hall, strong, substantial, hospitable; and New Hall, cosy and homelike, have been greatly taxed this year. Every available room has been occupied by students, and as you search for the practice rooms, you will exclaim, "We must have a Music Hall!" The little house at the footpath gate has housed eight people this year and also waits to welcome commencement guests.

These all are familiar places but the Gymnasium will be new to everyone. The exterior is not especially beautiful to look upon, but

within, every foot of space has its use. The main floor, 50 x 90 ft., gives room for class exercises as well as such games as basket ball and tennis during the winter months. Simply to enter the spacious room makes one assume an erect and athletic attitude; and you may be assured that the students give no indication that gymnasium practice comes short of being a delight. Downstairs are found the shower baths, dressing rooms, and beautiful swimming pool. Bathing suits should be remembered as you pack the commencement suitcase.

Besides the renewing of old friendships,—and college friendships are among the dearest in the world, because renewed, kept in repair, and growing through the years,—there are also new friendships to be made, because every alumna and non-graduate must come to feel

THE GYMNASIUM

through the years that all are classmates in their great Alma Mater, and that each must know the work and the worth of the others.

You are needed at Commencement so that you may come into touch with the present life of the College; that you may not only feel grateful for the inspiration and training of under-graduate years, but may also gain fresh momentum for your own life work and go away with hearts full of plans and hopes for the future of the College. For all these reasons, Commencement should be the red-letter day of the year, not only for the alumae but also for the students. The senior class needs the presence of the older sisters and their welcome into the

world's work, and all look up to the students of former years for inspiration and courage in their own efforts to obtain the broadest culture. The faculty need the encouragement which the very presence of a loyal body of alumae brings, and the trustees need your informing and devoted loyalty.

PRESIDENT-ELECT W. W. BOYD, PH. D.

This year you are especially needed, as your beloved college is about to enter upon a new administration. W. W. Boyd, Ph. D., now Dean of the College of Education at the Ohio State University, was in March elected to the presidency of Western College. He will enter

upon this work September 1st. There are perhaps few men in our State who are better acquainted with the educational interests of the State and of the people who are working in those interests. He was graduated from Marietta College in 1884, and has been in turn high school principal, superintendent, college professor, high school visitor, and has held his present position for the last seven years. As an active member of the Presbyterian Church he is also well known. In all circles he is admired and trusted. As Dr. Boyd has always lived in our State, The Western College has been known to him in a general way for many years, and consequently he comes to her leadership with sincere admiration for her past history and sanguine outlook for her future usefulness. Thoroughly acquainted with college conditions, he is free to express his belief in the separate college and in Christian education.

Congratulations

It may help us to compare our College with other institutions of similar rank and aims. In this way we remind ourselves that the separate college for women was slow in gaining foothold in the Middle West during the dark days in the early part of Miss McKee's administration. Co-education then occupied the field. The pendulum, however, is now swinging far out in favor of the separate college, and now is the time for Western College to equip herself to meet the growing needs of the times. West of the nine great eastern colleges for women, there is comparatively little offered in separate education. There are Elmira and Wells College in New York State, Wilson and Pennsylvania College for Women in Pennsylvania, Lake Erie and Western in Ohio, Illinois Woman's College and Rockford in Illinois. Milwaukee-Downer in Wisconsin, Mills in California, Randolph-Macon in Virginia, Agnes Scott in Georgia, and Sophie Newcomb in Louisiana, These are all standard colleges meeting the Carnegie definition. As far as statistics can be found, other colleges for women are either junior colleges or are in some particulars deficient in equipment or in standards. Many schools for girls known in former years are now closed, but our College has thus far withstood the storm and stress, and under a kind Providence now stands among the strongest in the Middle West. Indeed, of the five colleges just named, which are in the territory of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, covering fifteen states, none excel ours in endowment, equipment and the number of college students. Statistics change each year, and ours should advance with the others. What are our needs in the near future?

Needs

A Science Building, or one wing of a more complete building to be erected later. The ground floor of Alumnae Hall is needed for other departments, and it is clear that the odors and corrosive fumes from the laboratories should not enter the other class-rooms, nor circulate among the books of the library. We are now giving three and sometimes

four consecutive years' work in chemistry and in biology; and the demand for more room is imperative. Estimated cost of the first wing, $50,000.

A new Dormitory. We shall be unable to accept all student applications for the coming year, as we were unable for the present year. There is need of the dormitory as well as of the Science Hall at the opening of the next school year. Estimated cost, with furnishings, $65,000.

A President's House. President-elect Boyd has rented the Patterson place for three years. This should be permanently secured or a suitable building erected.

A Domestic Science Building. There is no suitable room for this department in either of the two dormitories and it should be separate from the other science departments. Estimated cost, $25,000.

A new Chapel, combined perhaps with a Music Hall. There are but eleven vacant chairs in the chapel this year, and a new dormitory would probably overtax the capacity of the chapel. No one can doubt the need of a Music Hall. Modest estimate of this building, $100,000.

A central heating plant, providing for future growth; an electric lighting plant and cold storage. $75,000.

An Infirmary. This building should be sufficiently commodious to provide for possible cases of contagious diseases, and also to furnish a quiet retreat for weary ones who need only a few days' rest in order to prevent loss of health or precious time. $10,000.

Endowment for each building equal to its cost, $350,000.

Endowment for teachers' salaries. Western alumnae sometimes ask why The Western College is not a member of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. One answer may be found in the meager compensation given to the heads of departments. In order to rank in the A division of colleges, the salaries of professors at Western should be increased probably fifty per cent. An endowment of at least $150,000 is required for this purpose.

Are we not today in urgent need of nearly one million dollars for buildings and endowment? There are also many smaller though expensive repairs which must be made:—The barn, now occupying the very center and most beautiful spot on the campus, should be removed. The steam pipes in Helen Peabody Hall, that have done service for thirty years, need to be replaced at an expense hard to estimate, but doubtless of several thousand dollars. The floors in the same Hall should be replaced in hard wood. A new grand piano costing not less than one thousand dollars must be added to the music department this summer, while practice pianos should be renewed, and the department is asking for a pianola. Indeed, every department could make use of an appropriation for books, maps, models and apparatus.

Possessions

That you may not be discouraged in regard to the future of your College, it may be well to give here a brief statement of the present assets of Western:—Helen Peabody Hall, a substantial, commodious building, equivalent in usefulness to three modern dormitories; New

Hall, Alumnae Hall and the Gymnasium, making a quartet of valuable, imposing buildings. The original campus of 70 acres, of surpassing beauty; with the adjoining farm making a total of 350 acres. The Langstroth Cottage, the McCord Cottage and the Roettig Place; the two farm houses and the new dairy barn, with its silo, concrete walls and floors, abundant water supply and electric lights.

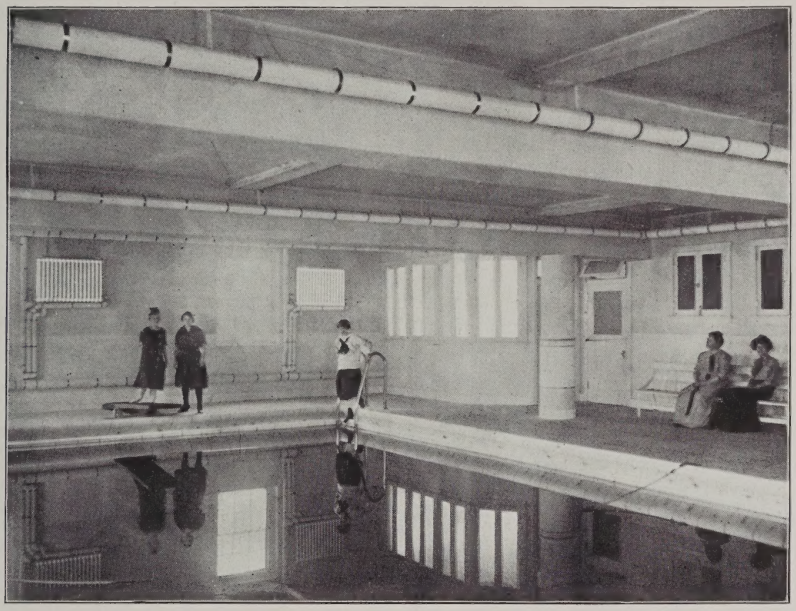
FLOOR OF GYMNASIUM

The endowment funds are as follows:

Scholarship funds	$63,152.61
Library "	7,000.00
Lecture "	2.500.00
Professorship "	45,486.35
General Endowment	176,907.72
	$295,046.68
($55,000. of this is invested in New Hall)	
Carmichael Annuity (to become a scholarship)	$5,000.00

The gymnasium is a beautiful reality, standing modestly under the trees on the very site which Mrs. Brice selected for it many years ago. How did it happen? Like Topsy, it just grew. The cost is $33,000. To meet this expense, there were $2,000, the accumulated gifts from the the alumnae for many years; $7,000 from the Dickey Legacy; about $2,000 contributed by the students in residence after

the building was begun; the Caroline Doup annuities and another small annuity, $10,000. Total, $21,000. A part of the remaining $12,000 will be supplied from the current funds, as this year's enrollment has been unusually large and there has been enforced economy in the administration. The amount lacking will be so small that it seems a pity for us not to be able to meet it fully before the new administration begins, does it not?



THE SWIMMING POOL

Plans for Consideration—Endowment Committee

In view of the constant needs of a growing college, would it no be wise for the alumnae to form at the coming commencement a more thorough organization for meeting these needs? When Alumnae Hall was built, the organization was complete. The Alumnae Association easily became a financial agency. The president of the college and one of the most active members of the Board of Trustees were members of the Association. The initiative and the inspiration to work came from within the Association, and as a result, Alumnae Hall, costing $55,000, was built and paid for in a space of four or five years. The money was all secured by the alumnae, no one person having given over $5,000.

Our Alumnae Association is now larger and perhaps not as unified as it was in '88, because there are now the graduates of the different administrations and of six decades. Can the Association be made a more unified body this commencement? There are already two members

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of the Association on the Board of Trustees, which is an element of strength. Would it not be wise to form an Endowment Committee from the Association, having each decade of classes represented? If this Committee should be formed of members living within easy reach of the College, semi-annual meetings might be planned for conference with the President. The Committee would see what is being done in the different departments, come in touch with the spirit of the work in the College and report the needs and plans to all the classes and branches. This would provide material for the alumnae to lay hold of with active interest for their systematic, sustained endeavor toward the financial up-building of the College.

Yet the financial work of the Association embraces by no means all the privileges and obligations of the alumae toward their Alma Mater. "To work, to watch and to pray"; to neglect the latter is to make the first of no avail. New buildings are not all; endowment is not everything. All material things are less than nothing without that spirit of love and loyalty which has appeared in all generations of Western College alumnae. The obligation of the culture of Western spirit far outweighs the other work of the Association. Every one can talk about her college, if she knows what is going on there, and loves it for what it has done for her, and for what it is doing still for other generations of girls. Therefore, besides the work of raising money, remember to direct the footsteps of the best girls toward the College,—watch for them, make plans for them, and see that they know about your Alma Mater.

For keeping in touch with one another and the College, one of the plans proposed, as you already know, is that of a new Register, giving some statistics about each former student. Accordingly, it would be helpful if every one into whose hands this bulletin comes should send information to the College of the permanent or present address and husband's name of any former student; and also of any deaths that have occurred.

It is said that in the days after the resignation of Miss Peabody, when they were trying to find her successor, that one of the alumnae said, "I wonder who can ever be found to fill Miss Peabody's place. But, though I do not know yet, I love to pray for her." As William Carey said, "Attempt great things for God; expect great things from God." Come back to Commencement with this spirit strong within you; because the College never stood in greater need of the love, the loyalty and the prayers of her daughters. We need to be reminded, in one body, that our College was, from the beginning, solemnly dedicated to the highest service of womanhood. Let us, therefore, "rise up and call her blessed." Do it amid the beauty of the campus, and in the loveliness of the June days; do it this Commencement Week in the strong fellowship of all the daughters of your Alma Mater.

"Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above."